

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid-liquid separation filter cloth composed of a plurality of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, the filter cloth comprising a filtering portion having a structure and density according to desired filtering characteristics for separating liquid from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid, and which filter cloth is further to be arranged against a filtering element in a filtering apparatus, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e., a portion facing the filtering element, comprises substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the rest of the yarns of the cloth, and that the thicker yarns are placed at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto to form parallel channels therebetween to enable the filtered liquid to flow in the direction of the surface of the filtering element between the filtering portion of the filter cloth and the filtering element.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Filter~~ The solid-liquid separation filter cloth as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thicker yarns are monofilaments, and that at least the yarns of the filter cloth that are parallel with the thicker yarns in the bottom and located at the thicker yarns are multifilaments, whereby the multifilament yarns have been moulded at the thicker yarns and thus form dense cloth also at the thicker yarns.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Filter~~ The solid-liquid separation filter cloth as claimed in claim 1, wherein the diameter difference between the other yarns and the thicker yarns of the filter cloth is at least 1 : 1.4 or more.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Filter~~ The solid-liquid separation filter cloth as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thicker yarns in the underside of the filter cloth have the same direction as a weft.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Filter~~ The solid-liquid separation filter cloth as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least some of the yarns used in the filter cloth are heat-shrinkable.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Filter~~ The solid-liquid separation filter cloth as claimed in claim 1, wherein batt has been needled to the filtering portion of an upper surface of the filter cloth, i.e., a surface facing away from the filtering element, to obtain a denser structure.

7. (Currently Amended) A solid-liquid separation filtering module to be arranged on a filtering element as a filtering surface when liquid is separated from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid by means of a filtering apparatus, which filtering module is made of filter cloth comprising a filtering layer composed of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e., the surface to be against the filtering element, is comprised of substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the other yarns of the filter cloth, and that channels are formed between the thicker yarns by the placement of the thicker yarns at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto, wherein the liquid filtered by the cloth is allowed to flow in the direction of a surface of the filtering element.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~The solid-liquid separation~~ solid-liquid separation filtering module as claimed in claim 7, wherein, the filter cloth is arranged such that the channels in the bottom of the cloth are directed according to a structure of the filtering module.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~The solid-liquid separation~~ solid-liquid separation filtering module as claimed in claim 7, wherein the filter cloth is arranged such that the channels in the bottom of the cloth are directed such that the channels lead the filtered liquid to openings in the filtering element.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~The solid-liquid separation~~ solid-liquid separation filtering module as claimed in claim 7, wherein the filtering module comprises heat-shrinkable yarns, allowing the filtering module to be stretched over the filtering element by thermal treatment.

11. (Currently Amended) A solid-liquid separation filtering apparatus, comprising:

a filtering module; and

a filtering element, wherein the filtering module is arranged on a filtering element as a filtering surface where liquid is separated from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid where, the filtering module is made of a filter cloth comprising a filtering layer composed of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e. the surface to be against the filtering element, comprises of substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the other yarns of the filter cloth, and channels are formed between the thicker yarns by the placement of the thicker yarns at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto, wherein the liquid filtered by the filter cloth is allowed to flow in the direction of a surface of the filtering element.

12. (Currently Amended) The solid-liquid separation filtering apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the filtering module is arranged such that the channels in the bottom of the cloth are directed according to a structure of the filtering module.

13. (Currently Amended) The solid-liquid separation filtering apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the filtering module is arranged such that the channels in the bottom of the cloth are directed such that the channels lead the filtered liquid to openings in the filtering element.

14. (Currently Amended) The solid-liquid separation filtering apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the filtering module comprises heat-shrinkable yarns, allowing the filtering module to be stretched over the filtering element by thermal treatment.

15. (New) A filter cloth composed of a plurality of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, the filter cloth comprising a filtering portion having a structure and

density according to desired filtering characteristics for separating liquid from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid, and which filter cloth is further to be arranged against a filtering element in a filtering apparatus, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e., a portion facing the filtering element, comprises substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the rest of the yarns of the cloth, and that the thicker yarns are placed at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto to form parallel channels therebetween to enable the filtered liquid to flow in the direction of the surface of the filtering element between the filtering portion of the filter cloth and the filtering element, wherein the thicker yarns are monofilaments, and that at least the yarns of the filter cloth that are parallel with the thicker yarns in the bottom and located at the thicker yarns are multifilaments, whereby the multifilament yarns have been moulded at the thicker yarns and thus form dense cloth also at the thicker yarns.

16. (New) A filtering module to be arranged on a filtering element as a filtering surface when liquid is separated from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid by means of a filtering apparatus, which filtering module is made of filter cloth comprising a filtering layer composed of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e., the surface to be against the filtering element, is comprised of substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the other yarns of the filter cloth, and that channels are formed between the thicker yarns by the placement of the thicker yarns at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto, wherein the liquid filtered by the cloth is allowed to flow in the direction of a surface of the filtering element, wherein the thicker yarns are monofilaments, and that at least the yarns of the filter cloth that are parallel with the thicker yarns in the bottom and located at the thicker yarns are multifilaments, whereby the multifilament yarns have been moulded at the thicker yarns and thus form dense cloth also at the thicker yarns.

17. (New) A filtering apparatus, comprising:

a filtering module; and

a filtering element, wherein the filtering module is arranged on a filtering

element as a filtering surface where liquid is separated from a mixture consisting of solids and liquid where, the filtering module is made of a filter cloth comprising a filtering layer composed of yarns in the transverse and the longitudinal directions, and an underside of the filter cloth, i.e. the surface to be against the filtering element, comprises of substantially parallel yarns that are thicker than the other yarns of the filter cloth, and channels are formed between the thicker yarns by the placement of the thicker yarns at predetermined intervals defined by the other yarns of the filter cloth extending parallel thereto, wherein the liquid filtered by the filter cloth is allowed to flow in the direction of a surface of the filtering element, wherein the thicker yarns are monofilaments, and that at least the yarns of the filter cloth that are parallel with the thicker yarns in the bottom and located at the thicker yarns are multifilaments, whereby the multifilament yarns have been moulded at the thicker yarns and thus form dense cloth also at the thicker yarns.